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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

26 MAR 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Honorable Claiborne Pell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

This is in reply to your letter of February 26, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without

# Congressional

DUF 83-17-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

## CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 03/09/93

### LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9301145	03/09/93	02/26/93	03/29/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Claiborne Pell	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several constituents	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/LR 3-10-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/09/93			

REMARKS:

CLAIBORNE PELL  
RHODE ISLAND

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3901

February 26, 1993

The Honorable James H. Quello  
Interim Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Quello:

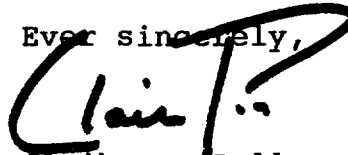
I have recently received a number of letters from fellow Rhode Islanders expressing their objections to Docket No. 92-235, Revision of Regulations on the Private Land Mobile Radio Services.

I have enclosed copies of these letters and I would urge that you carefully consider their concerns as you continue your review of this Proposed Rule.

Thank you in advance for your careful attention.

Warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

  
Claiborne Pell

Enclosure

PRB  
92-235

1145

131 Boyden Street  
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895  
February 13, 1993

The Honorable Claiborne d.e.B. Pell  
335 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Reference: Notice of Proposed  
Rule Making - Federal Communications  
Commission - NPRM Docket 92-235 -  
February 26, 1993

Dear Senator Pell:

I am a private pilot and president of the Blackstone Valley Aeromodelers Association, an organization whose members construct and operate radio controlled model aircraft. We are very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band

When we fly our model aircraft under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model aircraft have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

We do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at our expense. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we are a diverse group, many professional, and have a considerable investment in training and equipment. This fine sport provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like ourselves and contributes materially to the advancement and development of the commercial/military aviation industry.

Please help us continue the safe enjoyment of this fine sport by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band. Thank you very much for your attention in this important matter.

Regards and best wishes,



Steve G. Boluch

321 Taber Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
February 7, 1993

Mr. Honorable Senator Claiborne Pell

The Honorable C. Albion Pell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

February 8, 1993

\*\* Letter in opposition to FCC rules change (PR Docket 92-235) \*\*

Dear Senator Pell:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usable number of frequencies currently approved for model use, and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

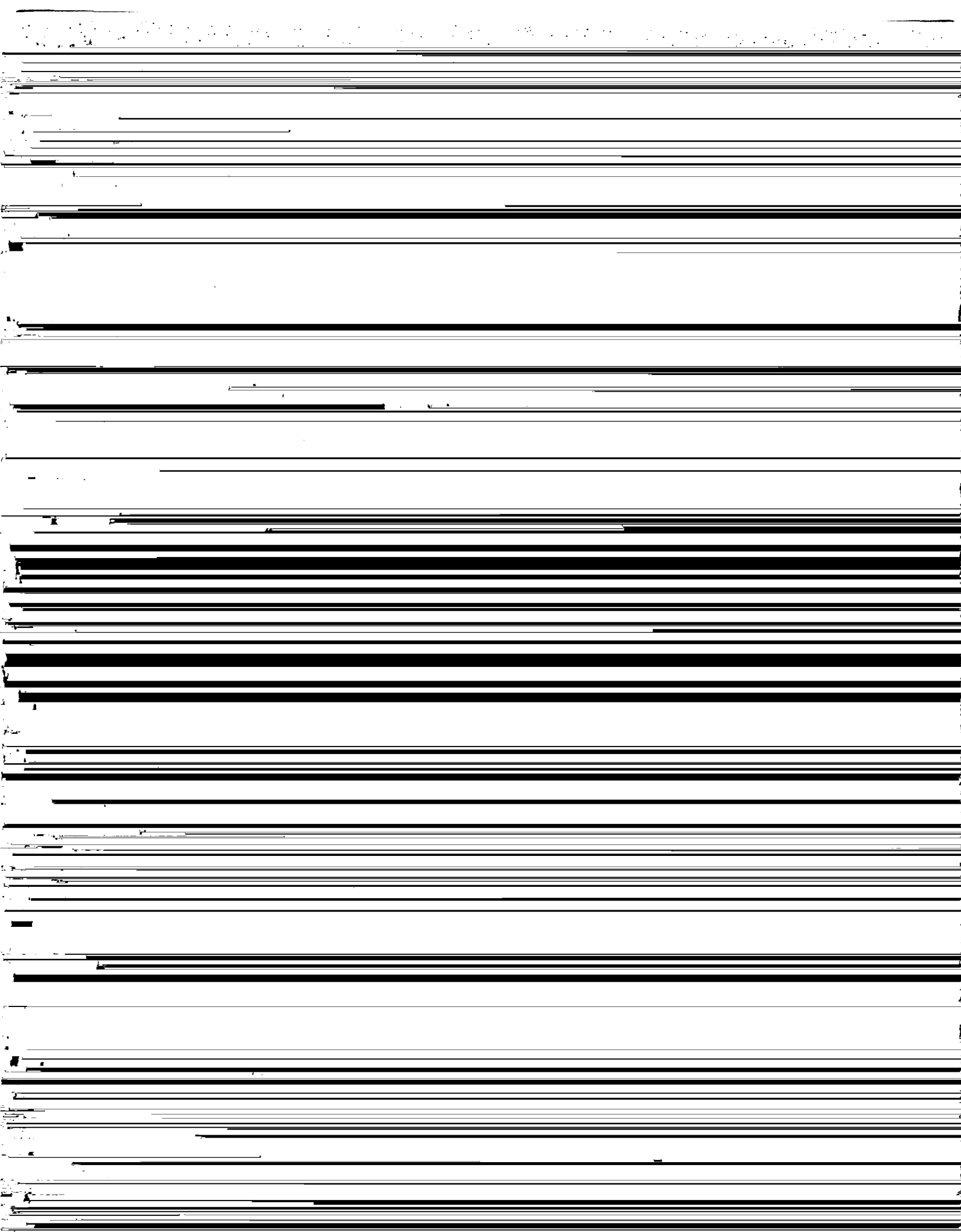
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Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by solitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model aircraft, only frequencies 19 will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wingspans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

Model aircraft are not toys - they are complete flying machines with all





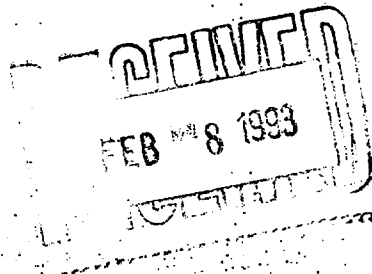
Page 2

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I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not

The Honorable Claiborne D. Pell  
301 Pastore Federal Building  
Providence, Rhode Island



4 February 1993

Dear Senator Pell:

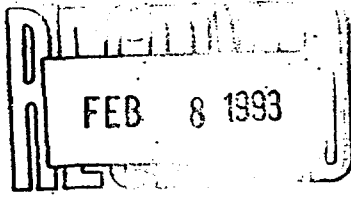
I am one of a group of 50 men who are members of the Aquidneck Radio Control Club, Inc., Middletown, Rhode Island. We build and fly serious radio controlled airplanes. Our club is sanctioned by the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc. (AMA) which in turn is an associate member of the National Aeronautics (NAA). NAA is the official U.S. representative of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI), the world governing body for sport aviation.

I am extremely concerned and vexed by the proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235.

Adoption of the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes. Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other. The current narrow band frequencies were assigned about two years ago and required the hundreds of thousands of radio control flyers, including myself to purchase new and expensive transmitters and receivers.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted. When we fly our airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment. I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control flyers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The activity provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of this intensely interesting and valuable activity by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. It is my opinion, and that of my peer group, that such action would deal a crippling blow, perhaps the death knell to this fascinating avocation that has been part of the American scene for more than seventy years.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Claiborne D. Pell  
301 Pastore Federal Building  
Providence, Rhode Island

4 February 1993

Dear Senator Pell:

I am one of a group of 50 men who are members of the Aquidneck Radio Control Club, Inc., Middletown, Rhode Island. We build and fly serious radio controlled airplanes. Our club is sanctioned by the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc. (AMA) which in turn is an associate member of the National Aeronautics (NAA). NAA is the official U.S. representative of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI), the world governing body for sport aviation.

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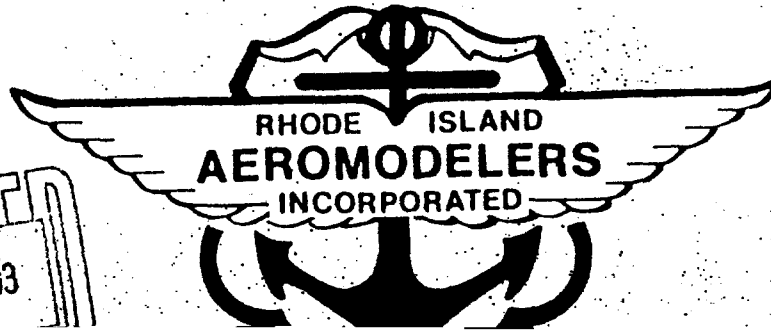
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Sincerely,

*Peter Accardi*

DECEMBER  
FEB 8 1993



When you get a model of a person, you can't see the person.

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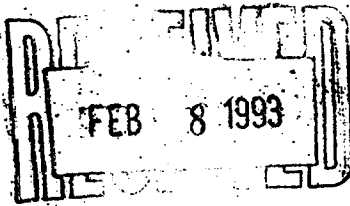
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The Honorable Claiborne D. Pell  
301 Pastore Federal Building  
Providence, Rhode Island

4 February 1993

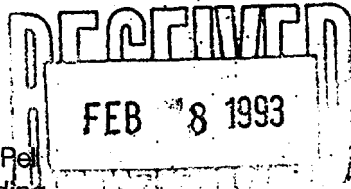
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Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by selling them to private companies.



The Honorable Claiborne D. Pell  
301 Pastore Federal Building  
Providence, Rhode Island

4 February 1993

Dear Senator Pell:

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Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted. When we fly our airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment. I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control flyers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The activity provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of this intensely interesting and valuable activity by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. It is my opinion, and that of my peer group, that such action would deal a crippling blow, perhaps the death knell to this fascinating avocation that has been part of the American scene for more than seventy years.

Sincerely,

*Arnold C Browne*  
Francisco Drive  
Middletown, R.I. 02840

February 7, 1993

93 FEB 10 PM 3:37

The Honorable Claiborne Pell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

I am very active in two Rhode Island model airplane clubs whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is **PR Docket 92-235**. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the useability of frequencies currently reserved for model airplane use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio frequencies are in the 72-76 Mhz band. This band is used primarily for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other. In fact, our model use radios were subjected to an expensive upgrade to 1991 "narrow-band" specifications as a result of recent FCC changes.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting 72-76 Mhz band into narrower widths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, some land mobile frequencies will move too close to the radio control frequencies and cause interference. I understand that of 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model aircraft, only 19 frequencies will remain usable if these new rules are adopted.

The most important danger to consider in the FCC's plan is the fact that these commercial radios may be "mobile". A vehicle equipped with a "mobile" radio on a channel adjacent



safety will again be greatly decreased. If the proposed changes allow the commercial transmitters to be "mobile" based, a "time-bomb" will have been created.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wingspans exceeding 10 feet and weigh 30-40 pounds. Model aircraft are expensive to build, requiring many hours to construct. Most are capable of speeds approaching 100 mph and pylon racers are capable of speeds approaching 200mph and will cause property damage, serious injury or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators and thousands of spectators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies to insure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers and public safety. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of safe enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 Mhz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Raymond J. Papineau".

Raymond J. Papineau  
15 Ebony Court  
N. Kingstown, RI 02852

93 FEB 12 6:19:55  
February 5, 1993

The Honorable Claiborne Pell  
United States Senate  
335 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

I am a former Naval aviator, long time aviation aficionado, and active member of the South County R/C Club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model aircraft. I am also affiliated with other similar clubs in Rhode Island especially the Rhode Island Aeromodelers which is based in Warwick. The several similar clubs in Rhode Island have memberships numbering in the thousands.

Proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have raised my concern. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

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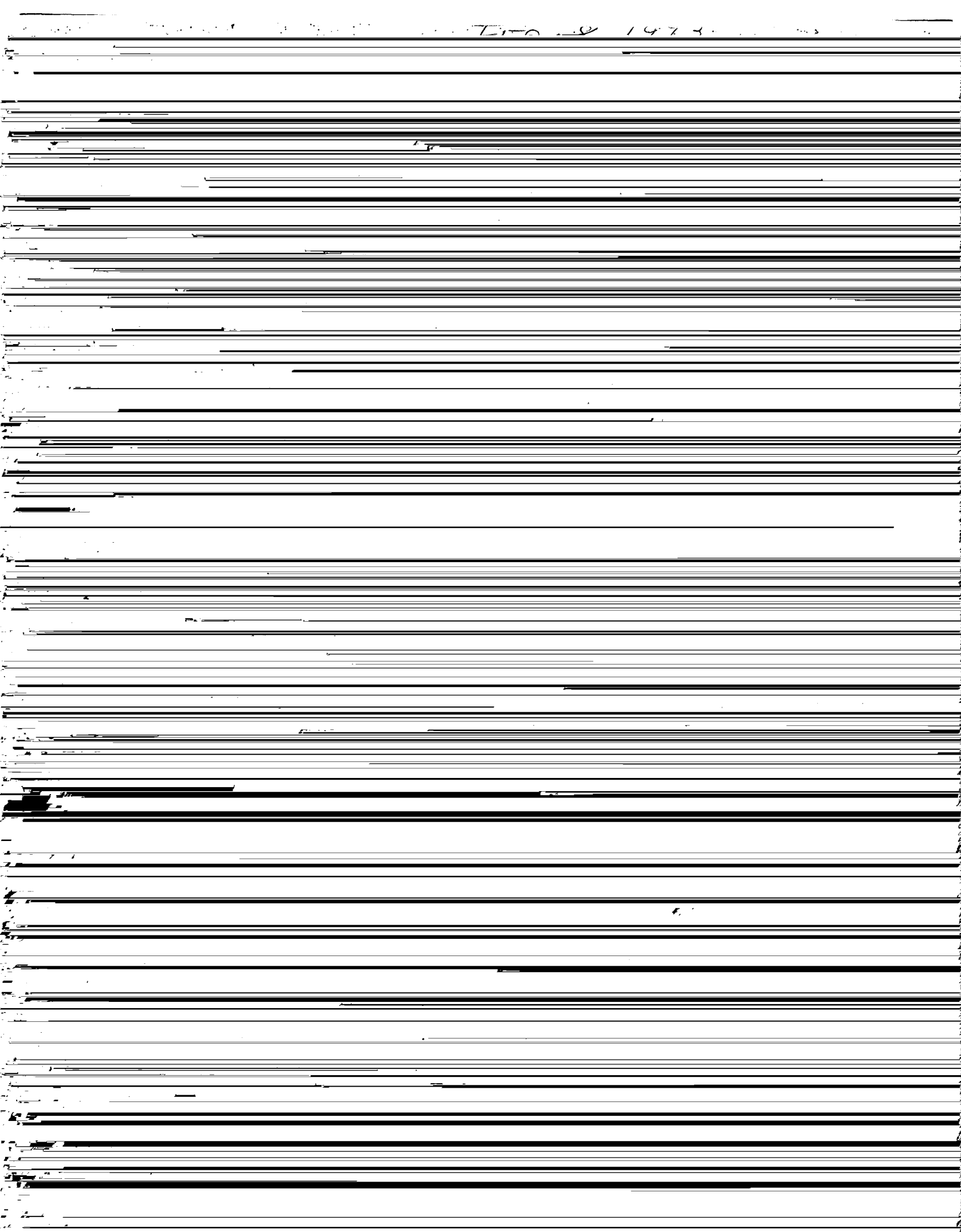
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New rules put into effect in 1990 required all radio control operators to use narrower band transmitters/receivers. This change represented many hundreds and even thousands of dollars of additional investment for many radio control operators. It was necessitated by an FCC rules change. Now, after hundreds of thousands of operators around the country have made the investment necessary to operate on narrower bands, the FCC is proposing this new change which will obsolete our new systems in many cases. I personally own about \$1,500 worth of radio systems that I will be unable to operate if the new changes are adjacent to my frequencies. I spent the \$1,500 so as to comply with the 1990 rule changes!

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great

lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies assigned to us. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events (like the ~~Windsor~~ ~~Dynamic~~ ~~Balloon~~ ~~Festival~~ ~~at~~ ~~UMT~~ and contests where



LAND MOBILE FREQUENCIES  
WILL MOVE CLOSER TO OUR RADIO

OF THE COMMERCIAL AVIATION  
INDUSTRY.

IF THESE RULES ARE ADOPTED,  
MY RADIO CONTROL EQUIPMENT  
WILL BE OBSOLETE AND DANGEROUS

158 Wheeler St  
Rehoboth, MA 02769

31JAN92

The Honorable Claiborne Pell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

My sons and I are active in the construction and operation of radio controlled model aircraft. The hobby has bought us hours of entertainment and a much improved understanding of how things work: mechanically, electronically, and aeronautically. The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), Reston, VA, a non-profit organization which promotes the hobby, has made me aware of PR Docket 92-235, which would greatly impair the safe use of many of the presently assigned frequencies. The AMA promotes safe operation and provides liability insurance for the extremely unlikely (but still possible) occurrence of damage to property or person. We are responsible citizens. The safe operation of our aircraft is absolutely dependent on the orderly assignment of radio frequencies.

The proposed rule changes would would create additional land mobile frequencies that are too close to our presently assigned frequencies to allow safe operation. I appreciate that mobile communication is important for business, and we have to share an increasingly crowded radio frequency spectrum, but we just went under new rules in 1991. The bandwidth was narrowed and thousands of us spent money to have our equipment retrofitted to meet the new FCC specifications. Its clear the FCC has completely discounted our significance. There are thousands of us spending millions of dollars every year. I just bought a \$400 transmitter (Made in USA), for example. This is an excellent hobby that fosters interest in remote control, electronics, telemetry, composite materials, battery technology, aeronautics and other disciplines that enhance our national competitiveness. Please do what you can to have the FCC reconsider this proposal.

I don't vote for you, but I work at RI Hospital and pay RI taxes. In 1967 I was part of the crew that groomed your lawn in Newport. Rhode Island is fortunate to be so ably represented. My wife and I both thank you for your efforts on behalf of higher education.

Sincerely,

Tom Graeber

*Tom Graeber*

Peter Graeber

*Peter Graeber*

Paul Graeber

*Paul Graeber*

The Honorable Mr. Claiborne Pell  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

January 30, 1993

Dear Senator Pell,

I am very active in several model airplane clubs whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the useability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

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Sincerely yours,

*Daniel A. Carey*  
71 Park View Ave  
Warwick, RI 02888  
401-461-2744



